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## GOVERNOR GRANHOLM DECLARES MARCH 21 - 27 SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

When a tornado is coming, you have only a short amount of time to make life-or-death decisions. Advance planning and quick response are the keys to surviving a tornado.

Remember! More people die of lightening strikes in Michigan than in any other disaster. Since tornadoes are usually accompanied by severe thunderstorms, being prepared is critical.

### Have disaster supplies on hand

- a. Flashlight and extra batteries
- b. Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- c. First aid kit and manual
- d. Emergency food and water
- e. Non-electric can opener
- f. Essential medicines
- g. Cash and credit cards
- h. Sturdy shoes

### Develop an emergency communication plan

In case family members are separated from one another during a tornado (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), have a plan for getting back together.

Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to

call long distance than to make a local call. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.

## From the Program Coordinator's Desk by Gary Zulinski

February was a great month for Michigan Citizen Corps. Five new councils were created in Alpena, Calhoun, Cass, Saginaw, and Schoolcraft County. Welcome aboard to the new councils!

Michigan now has 30 councils—17 county councils, 12 local councils and one statewide council. These councils serve 6,480,425 people or 71% of the total state population! In August 2003 when I began as Citizen Corps coordinator, there were 13 councils, which served 2,233,302 people or 22% of the total state population. Since that time, we have increased the population served by 190%! I would like to thank the Michigan Citizen Corps Council, and the members and staff of the Michigan Community Service Commission. Without your help this would not have been possible.

We have received 26 letters of intent for the \$782,400 in available funding for Citizen Corps Councils. If each proposal requests the maximum amount of \$50,000, we will have a total of \$1.3 million in requests. As a result, this funding cycle will be very competitive.

The Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division recently announced that 78 percent of Michigan school systems applied for and received School Hazard planning grants. One of the mandates of the grant is that the schools work with their respective Emergency Managers and conduct a tabletop or full-scale exercise. I encourage all Michigan Citizen Corps Councils to contact their school systems to learn if they received one of the planning grants and work collaboratively to coordinate Homeland Security initiatives.

## Guest Column

By: Bill Lukens, American Red Cross Community Relations

When asked, seven out of 10 people believe the American Red Cross plays a strong role in saving lives by collecting and distributing blood. But if you asked those same 10 people if they will give blood in the next 12 months, more than half will say it's not in their plans.

"Most people understand that many sick and injured people would die without blood transfusions," says Fred Sterns, chief executive officer of the Great Lakes Region Blood Services of the American Red Cross. "But many people don't realize they can make a difference in ensuring that blood is available."

Volunteer blood donors are the only source of blood products for hospital patients. But while blood use has been steadily climbing in the last decade, the number of people donating blood has not. Consider these facts:

- Just 5 percent of the U.S. population donates blood, while 97 percent of us will need a blood transfusion at some point in our lives.
- The American Red Cross supplies about 80 percent of the blood products used in Michigan. To adequately meet the needs of hospital patients, the National Red Cross recommends having a six-day supply available. In the past year, that supply has reached as low as two to three hours on any given day.

The Red Cross is partnering with Citizen Corps Councils across Michigan to support mutual programs, and to address problems associated with frequent or prolonged blood shortages.

"There are tremendous opportunities for Citizen Corps to assist the Red Cross in helping ensure that blood is readily available to treat the victims of natural or manmade disasters," says Gary Zulinski, Citizen Corps Council coordinator. "While the work of Citizen Corps and trainees of the Community Emergency Response Team help the injured, our efforts could be in vain if little or no blood is available."

To learn how you can work with the Red Cross to serve Michigan citizens, contact your local Red Cross chapter.

Information on local blood drives or donating blood is available by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

## DHS Launches Program to Facilitate Information Sharing

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced on February 23, 2004 the launch of the Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program. The PCII Program enables the private sector to voluntarily submit infrastructure information to the federal government to assist the nation in reducing its vulnerability to terrorist attacks.

Critical infrastructure includes the assets and systems that, if disrupted, would threaten our national security, public health and safety, economy, and way of life. Although these industries, services, and systems may be found in both the public and private sectors, the Department of Homeland Security estimates that more than 85 percent fall within the private sector.

Under provisions of the Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002 (CII Act), information that is voluntarily submitted per those provisions will be protected from public disclosure until and unless the PCII Program Office makes a determination that the information does not meet the requirements for PCII. If validated as PCII, the information will remain exempt from public disclosure. The rule establishing the procedures for PCII was published this week in the Federal Register. The PCII Program Office is part of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) Directorate and is charged with receiving submissions, determining if the information qualifies for protection and, if validated, sharing it with authorized entities for use as specified in the CII Act.

Initially, the PCII Program Office will limit the sharing of PCII to IAIP analysts. PCII may be used for many purposes, focusing primarily on analyzing and securing critical infrastructure and protected systems, risk and vulnerabilities assessments, and assisting with recovery as appropriate. The IAIP Directorate plays a critical role in securing the homeland by identifying and assessing threats and mapping those threats against vulnerabilities such as critical infrastructure.

Effective immediately, members of the public who wish to submit information may do so through the PCII Program Office.

For more information about the PCII Program, or to access the PCII regulation, please visit the PCII Program Office website on [www.DHS.gov/pcii](http://www.DHS.gov/pcii).

## DHS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION KIT

The Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) is accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2004 Homeland Security Preparedness Technical Assistance Program. The purpose of this program is to enhance the capacity of emergency responders to prevent, deter, or respond to terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. Cooperative agreements and grants will be awarded to eligible applicants to develop and provide technical assistance support for federal, state, and local jurisdictions.

An application assistance document, which can be accessed below, is provided to assist organizations in the proper and effective preparation of program applications.

**To access the application assistance document:**  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/docs/fy04hsptap.pdf>

## New Study Details Volunteer Management Capacity

Washington D.C. — The findings of one of the most comprehensive studies to be conducted of volunteer management in the United States – including a look at what charities and congregations say would be helpful with their volunteer management efforts – were released today at a press conference at the Urban Institute.

Conducted by the Urban Institute and supported by the USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and The UPS Foundation, the study gives the first clear picture of volunteer management capacity among a large sample of community organizations in the United

States. It shows that most charities do indeed utilize volunteers; charities and congregations greatly value the contributions those volunteers make to improving services and cutting costs; volunteer management practices have taken root in these organizations; and many organizations want to take on more volunteers. Click here to view the study.  
[http://www.nationalservice.org/research/vol\\_capacity\\_brief.pdf](http://www.nationalservice.org/research/vol_capacity_brief.pdf)

"This study demonstrates the important role that volunteers play in America, and their great value to nonprofit groups," said USA Freedom Corps Acting Director Ron Christie. "After measuring the volunteer management capacity and needs of nonprofit organizations and places of worship, we are now in a position to develop better policies and offer more effective resources to those organizations to recruit, manage, and retain volunteers. This is an important key to engage more people in volunteer service and to foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility in America."

### Key Findings

The study was conducted by the Urban Institute in fall 2003 and is based on a representative sample of 1,753 charities and 541 congregations. Among the key findings:

- More than four in five charities that are large enough to be required to report to the Internal Revenue Service use volunteers in one way or another. More importantly, more than 90 percent of them say that volunteers increase the quality of their service, reduce costs, and increase public support for their organization to a "great" or "moderate" extent. On average, groups say that an hour of a volunteer's time is worth approximately \$20 in financial resources – an amount that exceeds previous estimates by about 21 percent.
- More than nine in 10 charities and congregational outreach programs say they can absorb additional volunteers, with the typical (median) charity or congregation reporting that it can take on an additional 20 volunteers. Extrapolating nationwide, demand for volunteers at registered charities and at congregational outreach programs that manage their own volunteers currently

exceeds supply by approximately 5.9 million.

- The more time a volunteer coordinator dedicates to management of volunteers, the better a charity is prepared to take on additional volunteers, to adopt "best practices," and to have an effective program in terms of the benefits reported. This is important because although most charities (62 percent) have a paid staff member who coordinates volunteers, only one in eight has someone whose full-time job is volunteer management. Indeed, of the options offered, the number one resource charities said they would like is a full-time person to assist with volunteer recruitment and management.
- Charities that partner with religious organizations are more likely to report a number of positive characteristics, including the ability to recruit more volunteers and to reap greater benefits from them. However, charities that partner with religious organizations also say they require additional management resources.

The release of the survey's findings comes at a time when attention is increasingly being focused on the role and value of volunteer efforts to make our nation stronger, safer, and more secure. Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, President Bush created the USA Freedom Corps and issued a call for every American to dedicate the equivalent of at least two years of their life – or about 4,000 hours – to serving their communities and country through volunteering and other forms of service and civic participation.

Americans have responded to that call. According to a Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) study conducted in September 2003, approximately 63 million Americans volunteered through formal institutions and organizations during the preceding 12 months. That was up about 4 million, or 6.8 percent, from the number who responded positively a year earlier to that same question, which was included in a supplement to the Census Bureau's annual Current Population Survey at the request of the USA Freedom Corps and the Corporation for National and Community Service.

"At the time President Bush issued his call to service, some questioned whether the nonprofit sector could absorb the additional wave of volunteers, and put them to use effectively," said Elizabeth Boris, Director of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute. "This study helps us answer that question. Together with the BLS study, we now know that charities not only have already absorbed an influx of volunteers, but that they say they are prepared to absorb an additional 5.9 million volunteers – and even more if they get the help they need to effectively manage those additional volunteers."

Noting that nonprofit organizations attached particular importance to the value of having a full-time volunteer coordinator, David Eisner, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, said, "This is precisely the kind of help that many of our AmeriCorps members are providing to the nonprofit sector. By using our members to help charities recruit, train, organize, and manage volunteers, national service can be an engine of volunteer mobilization." At the press conference, Eisner announced a new partnership with the Points of Light Foundation that will provide 75 full-time AmeriCorps\*VISTA members to assist at Volunteer Center locations across the country, as well as new online resources to help current and potential AmeriCorps programs improve their volunteer management practices.

The study's findings also have important implications for private funders, said Evern Cooper, president of The UPS Foundation and vice president of UPS corporate relations. "Six years ago, The UPS Foundation launched its Volunteer Impact Initiative to help nonprofit organizations improve the recruitment, training, management, and retention of volunteers," Cooper said. "This research confirms there is significant opportunity for increased funding for nonprofit capacity-building, which leads to improved program and service delivery. However, no single funder can address this issue alone. Through our collaborative efforts with government, nonprofits, and businesses, we can build stronger communities." The research was conducted by Dr. Mark Hager, Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy, and Dr. Jeffrey Brudney, a professor at the University of Georgia. A PDF copy of the report, called "Volunteer Management Capacity in America's Charities and

Congregations: A Briefing Report," is available at [www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org).

USA Freedom Corps is a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility, and to help all Americans answer the President's Call to Service. For more information, visit [www.usafreedomcorps.gov](http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov).

The Corporation for National and Community Service provides opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through three programs: Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. For more information, visit [www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org).

The Urban Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research and educational organization that examines the social, economic, and governance challenges facing the nation. For more information, visit [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org).

Founded in 1951 and based in Atlanta, Ga., The UPS Foundation's major initiatives currently include programs that support increased nationwide volunteerism, family and workplace literacy, and hunger relief. In 2003, The UPS Foundation donated more than \$38 million to charitable organizations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.community.ups.com](http://www.community.ups.com).

## What Al-Qaeda knows about the United States

By Dan Verton

*Al-Qaeda "was using the Internet to do at least reconnaissance of American utilities and American facilities. If you put all the unclassified information together, sometimes it adds up to something that ought to be classified."*

— Richard Clarke,  
Chairman, President's Critical Infrastructure  
Protection Board  
February 13, 2002

The dust and debris hadn't even settled yet in and around what once was the World Trade Center in New York when the nationwide purge of sensitive online content began. For a moment, people were nervous and scared; for the first time, we had come

to the horrifying realization that there were people in the world, even living and working among us, who wanted to kill us. And for that fleeting moment, nobody in government and corporate America was in the mood to help make the killing any easier for the sleeping murderers who had yet to awaken and strike.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks, many federal agencies in the U.S. began to proactively scrub their Web sites for sensitive information that could be used by terrorists to plan future attacks. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency removed data from its Web site pertaining to the location of chemical facilities in the U.S. as well as information pertaining to risk management at those facilities. The agency also began restricting access to various online databases that contained information on chemicals and environmental threat issues. The removal of the data sparked a somewhat muted debate between the Bush administration's national security proponents and those who argued that the public had a right to know about the existence, location, and threat posed to their communities from such facilities. But like many of the concerns and newfound realities of the post-September 11 world, that debate faded quickly.

However, the EPA wasn't the only federal agency to scrub its Web sites for information that was of marginal public value but could be used to great advantage by terrorists. The Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety, for example, quickly announced its intent to remove detailed information on the location of oil and gas pipelines from its Web site. Likewise, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shut its public Web site down between October 11 and October 17 to protect potentially sensitive information from inadvertent disclosure. Information that was targeted for removal included schematics of power plants and documents that outlined scenarios and responses to severe accidents.

But policies are of no use unless they are followed and enforced, as the Defense Department was soon to find out. In spring 2000, a new reserve unit established by the Pentagon's Joint Task Force for Computer Network Defense was given the task of reviewing Defense Department Web sites for the continuing presence of classified or sensitive information about military facilities or operations.



What they discovered astonished most observers and security experts.

The so-called Web Risk Assessment Team spent one weekend each month digging through the Web sites of the Department looking for information that could compromise military secrets of ongoing operations. The team's survey of 800 major DOD Web sites revealed as many as 1,300 "discrepancies," some of them involving highly classified information, including more than 10 instances where information on Pentagon war plans were posted. Also among the discoveries has been information on computer system vulnerabilities and more than 20 detailed maps of DOD facilities.

Also discovered was a Web site for an annual exercise known as "Cobra Gold." The site included an entire list of participating units, communications frequencies, and call signs for aircraft and data on Identification Friend or Foe squawks, which are signals used by pilots to determine if a plane is friendly or enemy. And in one final instance of irony, the Web Risk Assessment Team discovered a classified excerpt taken from a counter-terrorism policy document.

But while the Web may seem like a gold mine for terrorists, it is important that we as a free nation do not allow the government to use terrorism as a pretext to withhold information that the public has a right and a need to know. This is one balancing act that truly does have life and death consequences.

**About the author:** This article is an expert from Dan Verton's "Black Ice: The Invisible Threat of Cyber-Terrorism," published by McGraw-Hill/Osborne.

## Ridge To Meet With Citizen Corps Volunteers

(Washington, DC) - To recognize the contribution citizens make in helping to keep our hometowns secure, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and other high-level Department officials will meet with volunteers active in Citizen Corps when they travel across the country.

"Citizens are a critical component of any endeavor to secure the homeland and I want to personally thank those who have taken that message to heart. By keeping our hometowns safer, we make our country safer," said Secretary Ridge.

Through Citizen Corps, the Department of Homeland Security provides local opportunities for everyone to participate in hometown security through personal preparedness, training, and volunteer opportunities.

Launched in January 2002 as part of President George W. Bush's USA Freedom Corps initiative to promote a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility, Citizen Corps has quickly grown to a national network of over 1,000 state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils serving more than 42 percent of the total U.S. population. In addition to the four charter Citizen Corps Programs, Community Emergency Response Teams, Medical Reserve Corps, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, and the Department's citizen preparedness Ready campaign, Citizen Corps has also partnered with 15 affiliate programs to help coordinate the range of opportunities in which citizens can participate.

On February 11, Mr. Rocco Forgione of Somerville, MA became the first Citizen Corps volunteer to meet with the Secretary. Mr. Forgione began volunteering at the American Red Cross and then joined the Somerville Auxiliary Fire Department, where he became involved with Citizen Corps. He has won several awards for his role as volunteer firefighter and is currently an instructor-in-training for his local CERT.

"I feel extremely honored to be the Citizen Corps volunteer selected to represent Somerville to the Secretary," said Forgione. "As a volunteer firefighter, I understand the importance of community preparedness and have seen the positive impact it has had on my hometown."

Later this week, Citizen Corps volunteers will meet with Department officials in New Orleans, Detroit, and Milwaukee. These cities have active Citizen Corps Councils that engage citizen volunteers to help with a variety of emergency preparedness challenges.

## Governor Granholm Appoints Five to Fire Fighters Training Council

**February 13, 2004**

LANSING – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm today announced the following five appointments to the Fire Fighters Training Council:

Randal Agruda of Williamsburg, general manager of The Collision Center, public information officer/fire lieutenant with Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department, and trustee of Acme Township Board. Mr. Agruda is appointed to represent the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Municipal League for a term expiring December 31, 2006. He succeeds Thad Taylor whose term has expired.

William Anderson of Hazel Park, fire marshal of Hazel Park Fire Department. Mr. Anderson is reappointed to represent the Metropolitan Club of America, Inc. for a term expiring December 31, 2006.

Dan Henderson of Holland, chief of the City of Holland Fire Department. Mr. Henderson is appointed to represent active members of the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs for a term expiring December 31, 2006. He succeeds Ken Eagle whose term has expired.

Clifford Messing of Ruth, president of Cliff A. Messing Excavating Inc. and chief of the Delaware Township Fire Department. Mr. Messing is appointed to represent the State Firemen's Association for a term expiring December 31, 2006. He succeeds Michael Burke whose term has expired.

Kevin Pirlot of Iron Mountain, lieutenant with the Iron Mountain Fire Department and 1st District Vice President for the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union. Mr. Pirlot is appointed to represent active firefighters of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union for a term expiring December 31, 2006. He succeeds Terrence Chesney whose term has expired. Mr. Pirlot is also designated to serve as chairperson of the council at the pleasure of the Governor.

The council is responsible for establishing standards, courses of study, certification of instructors, establishing regional training centers, and

developing and administering mandatory certification examinations for firefighters in this state.

All of the above appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

*We all have a role  
in hometown security*

**Citizen Corps asks you to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety.**

For more information about Michigan Citizen Corps, contact the Program Coordinator, Gary Zulinski at (517) 241-3867 or [zulinskig@michigan.gov](mailto:zulinskig@michigan.gov).